THREE NEW SYNONYMIES WITHIN THE CTENIDIA-BEARING BIRD LICE

(MALLOPHAGA: MENOPONIDAE)

In the course of my study of the ctenidia-bearing bird lice in the Menoponidae, I have recently become aware of three new synonymies that are herewith reported.

Epiara dimorpha Carriker, 1954 (= *Psittacobrosus chloropterae* Price and Beer, 1968). Price and Beer (1968, Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer. 61:261–276) described *P. chloropterae* from only ♂♂ from *Ara chloroptera* G. R. Gray; the ♂ genitalia, as well as other features, are deceptively close to those of some species of *Psittacobrosus* and gave little indication of an incorrect generic placement. Had ♀♀ been present in this series, this mistake would undoubtedly have been avoided since *Epiara* is easily distinguished by its unusual ♀ structure. The ♂ of *E. dimorpha* from its type-host, *Ara militaris* (Linnaeus), as well as from several other host species, typically has some very long marginal setae on most of abdominal tergites III–VIII; the ♂ of *P. chloropterae* has uniformly short marginal setae on all abdominal tergites III–VIII. The conspecificity of these series became evident when Dr. Theresa Clay, British Museum (Natural History), sent me a quill from *A. chloroptera*, this quill containing 11 ♀♀ and 11 ♂♂ of *E. dimorpha*; the ♂♂ showed variation in numbers of these long marginal tergal setae from those of typical *E. dimorpha* to being completely absent. I have found no other reliable means for separation of these series.

Ardeiphilus vittatus (Rudow, 1866) (= *Cuculiphilus mirzai* Qadri, 1935). I know of no features for separating series composed of both sexes from the type-host for each of these—respectively, *Ardeola ralloides* (Scopoli) and *A. grayii* (Sykes)—and they should be considered as being conspecific.

Osborniella crotophagae (Stafford, 1943) (= *Ardeiphilus incertus* Carriker, 1964). Carriker (1964, Rev. Brasil. Biol. 24:95–108) described *A. incertus* from a single ♂ supposedly from *Tigrisoma lineatum* (Boddaert). He admitted that it was considerably different from other *Ardeiphilus*, but believed it was closest to that genus. His illustrations appeared to me to be representative of *O. crotophagae* and not those of an *Ardeiphilus* species. Dr. K. C. Emerson, Arlington, Virginia, kindly examined the holotype of *A. incertus* and concurred that it is actually *O. crotophagae*; he further told me that Carriker had added an extra label on this slide correcting the host to *Crotophaga ani* Linnaeus—the type-host of *O. crotophagae*—but had not noted this change elsewhere.—ROGER D. PRICE, *Department of Entomology, Fisheries, and Wildlife, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101.*